

VOLUNTARY STANDARD

FOR

4-WHEEL ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES

1.0 Introduction

All-Terrain vehicles (ATVs) have gained widespread popularity for utility and recreational purposes. Commensurate with this phenomenon this voluntary standard for four wheel ATVs has been developed to minimize risks to users of ATVs.

2.0 Scope

2.1 This voluntary standard establishes requirements for equipment, configuration, performance and labeling of four wheel ATVs and for warning and caution statements in owner's manuals.

3.0 Definitions

3.1 Definitions shall be those set out in the current American National Standards Institute/Specialty Vehicle Institute of America publication entitled "Four Wheel All-Terrain Vehicles ANSI-SVIA-1-2001".

4.0 Equipment, Configuration and Performance Requirements

4.1 **ANSI-SVIA-1-2001.** Unless otherwise specified herein the requirements for equipment, configuration, and performance of four wheel ATVs shall be those set out in the American National Standards Institute/Specialty Vehicle Institute of America publication entitled "Four Wheel All-Terrain Vehicles ANSI/SVIA-1-2001".

4.2 **Noise.** Every new ATV is to comply with the sound level limits designated below, when measured at a distance of 15 meters using the test procedures established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (40 CFR part 205, appendix 1) or its substantial equivalent.

Displacement 170 cc and below	80dBA
Displacement more than 170 cc	82dBA

5.0 Labels

5.1 **Official Languages.** Labels provided with the ATV at time of sale to the first purchaser shall be in the official language preferred by the first purchaser.

5.2 **General Warning Label.** A general warning label in the form attached as Appendix A shall be affixed to every ATV. This first label shall bear the words and shall

be of the language, dimensions, format, type size, and type font as shown in appendix A. In addition, this label shall conform to the following criteria:

5.2.1 Colour Scheme. The rectangle enclosing the signal word, “WARNING,” shall be orange. The signal word, “WARNING,” shall be in black lettering and be preceded by the safety alert symbol (the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Symbol) which is represented as a solid equilateral triangle resting on one side, having an exclamation mark upright and centered within the triangle. The remainder of the label shall be in black lettering on a white background. The entire label shall be surrounded by a narrow white border.

5.2.2 Durability. This label shall meet the United States DOT/EPA standards for durability (49 C.F.R. s 567.4(b); 40 C.F.R. s 86.087-35(c) (1)).

5.2.3 Location. This label shall be affixed to the left front fender so as to be easily read by the operator when seated on the vehicle in the proper operating position. If this location is not appropriate for a particular vehicle, the label shall be affixed to the right front fender so as to be easily read by the operator when seated on the vehicle in the proper operating position.

5.3 Age Recommendation Warning Label. An age recommendation label in the form attached as Appendix B shall be affixed to every ATV that is equipped with an engine of 70 cm³ up to and including 90 cm³ or less. For ATVs with engine sizes greater than 90 cm³, the label shall be in the form attached as Appendix C. The age recommendation warning label shall bear the words and shall be of the language, dimensions, format, type size, and type font as shown in the applicable Appendix. In addition, the age recommendation warning label shall conform to the following criteria:

5.3.1 Colour Scheme. The colour scheme shall be the same as that stated in paragraph 5.2.1, with the additional requirement that the circle and diagonal slash be red.

5.3.2 Durability. This label shall meet the United States DOT/EPA standards for durability (49 C.F.R. s 567.4(b); 40 C.F.R. s 86.087-35(c) (1)).

5.3.3 Location. This label shall be affixed to the fuel tank so as to be easily read by the operator when seated on the vehicle in the proper operating position. If this location is not appropriate for a particular vehicle, or if, when affixed at this location, the label will not meet the durability requirement stated above, the label shall be placed on the front fender above the label described at paragraph 5.1. If this location is not appropriate for a particular vehicle, the label shall be placed on the top portion of the headlamp or on the vehicle body immediately forward of the seat so as to be easily read by the operator when seated on the vehicle in the proper operating position.

5.4 Passenger Warning Label. A passenger warning label in the form attached as Appendix D warning against riding as a passenger on the ATV shall be affixed to every

ATV. This label shall have the wording, dimensions, format, type size, and type font as shown in Appendix D. In addition, this label shall conform to the following criteria:

5.4.1 Colour Scheme. The colour scheme shall be the same as that stated in paragraph 5.2.1.

5.4.2 Durability. This label shall meet the United States DOT/EPA standards for durability (49 C.F.R. s 567.4(b); 40 C.F.R. s 86.087-35(c) (1)).

5.4.3 Location. This label shall be affixed either to the body of the vehicle to the rear of the seat, on a flat surface, and toward the center of the vehicle, or to the seat of the vehicle, at the rear of the seat. If neither of these locations is appropriate for a particular vehicle, the label shall be affixed to the left rear fender or left side of the body so as to be easily read by a potential passenger.

5.5 Tire Pressure and Overloading Warning Label (s). A label or labels warning against use of improper air pressure in the ATV's tire and against overloading shall be affixed to every ATV. The label (s) shall conform to the following criteria:

5.5.1 Content. The label (s) shall contain the SAE safety alert symbol and the signal "WARNING" in capital letters. If separate labels are used to warn of the above potential hazard and consequence statements:

- "Improper tire pressure can cause loss of control.
Loss of control can result in severe injury or death."
- "Overloading can cause loss of control.
Loss of control can result in severe injury or death."

If one label is used for both warnings, that label shall contain, at a minimum, the following hazard and consequence statements:

- "Improper tire pressure and overloading can cause loss of control.
Loss of control can result in severe injury or death."

Every label warning about improper tire pressure shall contain a statement indicating the recommended tire pressure (s). Tire pressure information may be stated on the label itself or provided by reference to either the owner's manual, the tires, or both the owner's manual and the tires. Every label warning against overloading shall contain a statement indicating a maximum weight capacity for the ATV. Maximum weight capacity shall be stated on the label itself. Any other information appearing on either the tire pressure label or the overloading label shall be safety-oriented and shall not detract from or contradict the required statements.

5.5.2 Letter Typeface and Size. The typeface used in the label shall be Helvetica Bold or New Gothic Bold type font, san serif. The size of the typeface or the upper case lettering in the text of the warning shall be at least 2.5 mm, and the size of the typeface of the signal word "WARNING" and safety alert symbol shall be at least 3.8 mm.

5.5.3 Format. The SAE safety alert symbol shall precede the signal word “WARNING” on a single line, which shall be separated from the text by horizontal line. The hazard statement shall appear first in the text of the warning, followed by the consequence statement, and concluded by the avoidance statement (s). The hazard statement, the consequence statement, and the avoidance statement (s) shall be separated by a line of space. The label shall be completely framed with a margin of white space inside a black line forming a rectangle.

5.5.4 Colour Scheme. The colour scheme shall be the same as that stated in paragraph 5.2.1.

5.5.5 Durability. This label shall meet the United States DOT/EPA standards for durability (49 C.F.R. s 567.4(b); 40 C.F.R. s 86.087-35(c) (1)).

5.5.6 Readability Level. To the extent feasible, the label shall be written in plain, simple wording.

5.5.7 Location. The label (or labels) warning about improper tire pressure and overloading shall be affixed to the left rear fender above the axle, facing outward in such a position that it (they) can be read by the operator when mounting the vehicle.

5.6 Discretionary Labels. Labels in addition to the labels described in subsection 5.1 to 5.4 may be affixed to the ATV as long as they satisfy the following criteria, to the extent applicable:

5.6.1 Content. Where a label describes a potential hazard which could result in a serious injury or death, it shall contain

- (a) the SAE safety alert symbol and the signal word “WARNING” in capital letters;
- (b) a concise, unambiguous narrative description of the hazard being warned about;
- (c) a concise, unambiguous narrative description of the consequence if a hazard is encountered; and
- (d) a concise, unambiguous narrative description of what to do to avoid the hazard.

5.6.2 Letter Typeface and Size. Where a label describes a potential hazard that could result in a serious injury or death, the letter typeface and size shall be the same as that stated in paragraph 5.5.2.

5.6.3 Format. Where a label describes a potential hazard that could result in a serious injury or death, the format shall be the same as stated as that in paragraph 5.5.3, except that the three narrative statements may be combined and do not have to be separated by a line of space.

5.6.4 Colour Scheme. Where a label describes a potential hazard that could result in a serious injury or death, the colour scheme shall be the same as that stated in paragraph 5.2.1.

5.6.5 Durability. Where a label describes a potential hazard that could result in a serious injury or death, the label shall meet the United States DOT/EPA standards for durability (49 C.F.R. s 567.4(b); 40 C.F.R. s 86.087-35(c) (1)).

5.6.6 Readability Level. Where a label describes a potential hazard that could result in a serious injury or death, the label, to the extent feasible, shall be written in plain, simple wording.

5.6.7 Location. Discretionary labels shall be affixed to ATVs in an appropriate location so long as they do not detract from the labels described in paragraph 5.2 to 5.5.

5.6.8 If requirements 5.6.1 through 5.6.7 effectively preclude placement of any discretionary label in the location which most clearly draws attention to the vehicle component or function to which the warning relates, these requirements shall not apply to such discretionary labels; provided, however, that any discretionary label which describes a potential hazard which could result in serious injury or death shall, at a minimum, bear the SAE safety alert symbol and the signal word “WARNING” on a single line which shall be separated from the text by a horizontal line, and shall conform to the colour scheme set forth at paragraph 5.2.1.

6.0 Owner’s Manual. Every ATV shall be supplied with an owner’s manual in the official language preferred by the first purchaser, that meets the requirements set forth herein.

6.1 Contents.

- (a) Each owner’s manual shall be written and designed in a manner reasonably calculated to convey information regarding safe operation and maintenance of the vehicle by persons who read such manuals.
- (b) To the extent feasible, the manuals shall be written in plain, simple wording.
- (c) Information in the manuals shall be presented in a meaningful sequence designed to permit readers to understand the information presented and appreciate its significance.
- (d) Every owner’s manual shall be consistent with other safety messages such as those contained in the notices and warning labels.
- (e) At a minimum, each owner’s manual shall contain the following:

- (i) A statement on the outside front cover which, at a minimum, alerts the reader that the manual contains important safety information which should be read carefully;
- (ii) A statement on the outside front cover stating the age recommendation for the particular ATV model in question;
- (iii) Definitions for “WARNING” and “CAUTION” which are consistent with, or in any event not weaker than, the definitions for those terms contained in American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards, along with an introductory statement alerting the reader to the significance of the SAE safety alert symbol and the signal words. If the definition is stronger than that contained in ANSI standards, the statement described at (iv) and (v) shall be consistent with the stronger definition.
- (iv) The following reminder shall be repeated immediately preceding the table of contents, at the beginning and end of the section describing proper operating procedures, on the last page before the outside back cover (or on the inside back cover), and a total of at least 5 or more times, appropriately spaced, within sections containing warnings;

(Insert Label) Indicates a potential hazard that could result in serious injury or death.

The remainder shall be prominently displayed, segregated from other text on the page, in typeface at least 2.5 mm, with the signal word in typeface at least 3.8 mm.

- (v) An introductory safety message emphasizing the importance of reading and understanding the manual prior to operation, the importance of training courses endorsed by the industry, and the importance of the age recommendation for the particular model. This introductory message shall contain, at a minimum, the following statement:

“Failure to follow the warnings contained in this manual can result in SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.”

- (vi) For ATVs with engine size 90 cc and less, an introductory notice to parents emphasizing that an ATV is not a “toy”, the importance of children completing a training course endorsed by the industry, and the importance of children understanding and following the instructions and warnings contained in the manual. This

introductory notice shall also contain, at a minimum, the following statement:

“Children differ in skills, physical abilities, and judgement. Some children may not be able to operate an ATV safely. Parents should supervise their child’s use of the ATV at all times. Parents should permit continued use only if they determine that the child has the ability to operate the ATV safely.”

- (vii) An introductory safety section which, at a minimum, contains the safety messages set forth in Appendix E in the form shown.
- (viii) An appropriate table of contents identifying the major portions of the manual.
- (ix) Descriptions of the location of warning labels on the ATV and an introductory statement emphasizing the importance of understanding and following the labels, and the importance of keeping the labels on the ATV. The introductory statement shall also contain instructions on how to obtain a replacement label in the event any label becomes difficult to read or comes off.
- (x) A description of pre-operating inspection procedures and a statement emphasizing the importance of these procedures.
- (xi) A description of proper operating procedures and of potential hazards associated with improper operation of the vehicle. In the section of each manual devoted to describing proper operating procedures the narrative text shall identify particular potential hazards associated with the types of operation or behaviour in question, the possible consequences of such operation or behaviour, and shall describe the manner in which the vehicle should be properly operated to avoid or reduce the risk associated with such hazards. Such narrative text shall include warning statements and corresponding illustrations in conformance with the guidelines for warning and caution statements in Owner’s Manuals attached as Appendix F. The text of the narrative sections accompanying each warning shall not contradict any information contained in the warning section and shall be written to draw attention to the warning.
- (xii) Description of proper maintenance, storage, and transportation procedures.

(xiii) The contents of the general warning label described at paragraph 5.2.

(f) Every owner's manual shall conform to the guidelines for Warning and Caution statements in Owner's Manuals attached as Appendix F. Where a manual describes a potential hazard for which the terms "warning" or "caution", as these terms are defined by the American National Standards Institute standards, are appropriate, the discussion of that potential hazard shall be accompanied by a "warning" or "caution" statement which conforms to these guidelines.

Appendix A

[General Warning Label]

WARNING

Improper use of ATVs can result in **SEVERE INJURY** or **DEATH**.

			
ALWAYS USE AN APPROVED HELMET AND PROTECTIVE GEAR	NEVER USE ON PUBLIC ROADS	NEVER CARRY PASSENGERS	NEVER USE WITH DRUGS OR ALCOHOL

NEVER operate:

- without proper training or instruction.
- at speeds too fast for your skills or the conditions.
- on public roads - a collision can occur with another vehicle.
- with a passenger - passengers affect balance and steering and increase risk of losing control.

ALWAYS:

- use proper riding techniques to avoid vehicle overturns on hills and rough terrain and in turns.
- avoid paved surfaces - pavement may seriously affect handling and control.

READ THE OWNER'S MANUAL.

FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS.

HM5-A10

Appendix B

[Age Recommendation warning Label (#1)]



Appendix C

[Age Recommendation Warning Label (#2)]



Appendix D



Appendix E

AN ATV IS NOT A TOY AND CAN BE HAZARDOUS TO OPERATE. An ATV handles differently from other vehicles including motorcycles and cars. A collision or rollover can occur quickly, even during routine maneuvers such as turning and driving on hills or over obstacles, if you fail to take proper precautions.

SEVERE INJURY OR DEATH can result if you do not follow these instructions:

- ◆ Read this manual and all labels carefully and follow the operating procedures prescribed.
- ◆ Never operate an ATV without proper instructions. Take a training course. Beginners should receive training from a certified instructor. Contact an authorized ATV dealer or call the Canadian All-Terrain Vehicle Distributors Council (CATV) at (905) 470-9406 in the Toronto area or toll-free at 1-877-470-CATV to find out about the training courses nearest you.
- ◆ Always follow these age recommendations:
 - A child under 12 years old should never operate an ATV with engine size 70 cc or greater.
 - A child under 16 years old should never operate an ATV with engine size greater than 90 cc.
- ◆ Never allow a child under the age of 16 to operate an ATV without adult supervision, and never allow continued use of an ATV by a child if he or she does not have the abilities to operate it safely.
- ◆ Never carry a passenger on an ATV.
- ◆ Never operate an ATV on any paved surfaces, including sidewalks, driveways, parking lots and streets.
- ◆ Never operate an ATV on any public street, road or highway, even a dirt or gravel one.
- ◆ Never operate an ATV without wearing an approved motorcycle helmet that fits properly. You should also wear eye protection (goggles or face shield), gloves, boots, long-sleeved shirt or jacket, and long pants.
- ◆ Never consume alcohol or drugs before or while operating this ATV.

- ◆ Never operate at excessive speeds. Always go at a speed that is proper for the terrain, visibility and operating conditions, and your experience.
- ◆ Never attempt wheelies, jumps or other stunts.
- ◆ Always inspect your ATV each time you use it to make sure it is in safe operating condition. Always follow the inspection and maintenance procedures and schedules described in this manual.
- ◆ Always keep both hands on the handlebars and both feet on the footpegs of the ATV during operation.
- ◆ Always go slowly and be extra careful when operating on unfamiliar terrain. Always be alert to changing terrain conditions when operating the ATV.
- ◆ Never operate on excessively rough, slippery or loose terrain until you have learned and practiced the skills necessary to control the ATV on such terrain. Always be especially cautious on these kinds of terrain.
- ◆ Always follow proper procedures for turning as described in this manual. Practice turning at low speeds before attempting to turn at faster speeds. Do not turn at excessive speed.
- ◆ Never operate the ATV on hills too steep for the ATV or for your abilities. Practice on smaller hills before attempting larger hills.
- ◆ Always follow proper procedures for climbing hills as described in this manual. Check the terrain carefully before you start up any hill. Never climb hills with excessively slippery or loose surfaces. Shift your weight forward. Never open the throttle suddenly or make sudden gear changes. Never go over the top of any hill at high speed.
- ◆ Always follow proper procedures for going down hills and for braking on hills as described in this manual. Check the terrain carefully before you start down any hill. Shift your weight backward. Never go down a hill at high speed. Avoid going down a hill at an angle that would cause the vehicle to lean sharply to one side. Go straight down the hill where possible.
- ◆ Always follow proper procedures for crossing the side of a hill as described in this manual. Avoid hills with excessively slippery or loose surfaces. Shift your weight to the uphill side of the ATV. Never attempt to turn the ATV around on any hill until you have mastered the turning technique described in this manual on level ground. Avoid crossing the side of a steep hill if possible.
- ◆ Always use proper procedures if you stall or roll backwards when climbing a hill. To avoid stalling, use proper gear and maintain a steady speed when climbing a hill. If you stall or roll backwards, follow the special procedure for braking described in this manual.

Dismount on the uphill side or to a side if pointed straight uphill. Turn the ATV around and remount, following the procedure described in this manual.

- ◆ Always check for obstacles before operating in a new area. Never attempt to operate over large obstacles, such as large rocks or fallen trees. Always follow proper procedures when operating over obstacles as described in this manual.
- ◆ Always be careful when skidding or sliding. Learn to safely control skidding or sliding by practicing at low speeds and on level, smooth terrain. On extremely slippery surfaces, such as ice, go slowly and be very cautious in order to reduce the chance of skidding or sliding out of control.
- ◆ Never operate an ATV in fast flowing water or in water deeper than that specified in this manual. Remember that wet brakes may have reduced stopping ability. Test your brakes after leaving water. If necessary, apply them several times to let friction dry out the linings.
- ◆ Always be sure there are no obstacles or people behind you when you operate in reverse. When it is safe to proceed in reverse, go slowly.
- ◆ Always use the size and type tires specified in this manual. Always maintain proper tire pressure as described in this manual.
- ◆ Never modify an ATV through improper installation or use of accessories.
- ◆ Never exceed the stated load capacity for an ATV. Cargo should be properly distributed and securely attached. Reduce speed and follow instructions in this manual for carrying cargo or pulling a trailer. Allow greater distance for braking.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ATV SAFETY, contact:

Canadian All-Terrain Vehicle Distributors Council
716 Gordon Baker Road, Suite 100
North York, Ontario
M2H 3B4
Tel: (416) 491-4439
Toll Free 1-877-470-CATV
Fax: (416) 493-1985
www.catv.ca

Appendix F

GUIDELINES FOR WARNING AND CAUTION STATEMENTS IN OWNER'S MANUAL

I. SCOPE

For purposes of these guidelines, the term “warning” shall refer to a statement about a potential hazard which could result in a serious injury or death, and the term “caution” shall refer to a statement about a potential hazard which may result in minor or moderate personal injury or in damage to the ATV.

II. WARNING AND CAUTION STATEMENTS

A. Content: The warning and caution statements contained in owner’s manuals shall be substantially those referenced in Appendix E.

B. Format:

1. The SAE safety alert symbol shall precede the signal word on a single line, which shall be separated from the text by a horizontal line;
2. The warning or caution statement – including all elements except any illustration – shall be completely framed with a margin of white space inside a black line forming a rectangle, so as to isolate the statement from the narrative text of the manual;
3. The hazard statement shall appear first in the text of the warning or caution, followed by the consequences statement, and concluded by the avoidance statement; and
4. A line of space shall separate the hazard statement from the consequence statement. A line of space shall separate the consequence statement from the avoidance statement.

C. Colour Scheme and Letter Typeface:

1. The SAE safety alert symbol and signal word shall be on a black background; the signal word “WARNING” shall be in white lettering; the SAE safety alert symbol shall be in a white triangle (point up) with a black exclamation mark.
2. The text of the warnings shall be printed in the black ink on white paper.

3. The typeface of the text of the warning statements shall in no event be script, but shall be either Helvetica Bold or New Gothic Bold type font, or a substantially similar font;
4. The typeface shall be bold face sans serif.

D. Letter Size: The size of the safety alert symbol and signal word shall be 50% greater than the size of the typeface of the text of the warning.

E. Placement:

1. Each warning shall be placed such that it clearly relates to the relevant narrative text.
2. Each warning shall be placed such that it appears entirely on a single page. No warning shall be split between two pages; and
3. Corresponding illustrations shall appear adjacent to the warning, on the same page or on the facing page.

III. DISCRETIONARY WARNING AND CAUTION STATEMENTS

A. Content: Any “warning” included in a manual, and any “caution”, other than a “caution” that relates principally to damage to the vehicle, included in a manual shall contain the following elements:

1. The society of Automotive engineers (SAE) safety alert symbol and the signal word “WARNING” or “CAUTION” in capital letters;
2. A concise, unambiguous narrative statement of the potential hazard being warned about (“the hazard statement”);
3. A concise, unambiguous narrative description of the consequences if the potential hazard is encountered (“the consequence statement”);
4. A concise, unambiguous narrative description of what to do to avoid the potential hazard (“the avoidance statement”);
5. Where a potential hazard has more than one consequence, the warning shall include, for each consequence, a description of the consequence, immediately followed by a description of what to do to avoid the potential hazard.

B. Readability Level: To the extent feasible, each “warning” and “caution” shall be written in plain, simple terms.

C. Format:

1. The SAE safety alert symbol shall precede the signal word on a single line, which shall be separated from the text by a horizontal line;
2. The warning or caution statement – including all elements - shall be completely framed with a margin of white space inside a black line forming a rectangle, so as to isolate the statement from the narrative text of the manual; and
3. The hazard statement shall appear first in the text of the warning or caution, followed by the consequences statement, and concluded by the avoidance statement.

D. Colour Scheme:

1. Warning Statements:

- a. The SAE safety alert symbol and signal word shall be on a black background; the signal word shall be in white lettering; the SAE safety alert shall be in white triangle (point up) with a black exclamation mark;
- b. The text of the warning shall be printed in black ink on white paper.

2. Caution Statements:

- a. The SAE safety alert symbol and signal word shall be on a black background; the signal word shall be in white lettering; the SAE safety alert shall be a white triangle (point up) with a black exclamation mark;
- b. The text of the warning shall be printed in black ink on white paper.

E. Letter Typeface and Size:

1. The typeface of the text of the warning or caution shall in no event be script, but shall be either Helvetica bold or New Gothic Bold type font, or substantially similar font;
2. The typeface shall be bold face sans serif;
3. The size of the safety alert symbol and signal word shall be 50% greater than the size of the typeface of the text of the warning or caution.

F. Placement:

1. Each warning or caution shall be placed such that it clearly relates to the relevant narrative text;

2. Each warning or caution shall be placed such that it appears entirely on a single page. No warning or caution shall be split between two pages; and
3. Any photograph, sketch or pictograph that illustrates a warning or caution shall appear adjacent to the warning or caution, on the same page or on the facing page.

G. Illustrations of Hazards:

1. Where a person is depicted operating an ATV, the person shall be shown wearing an approved motorcycle helmet, eye protection, gloves, boots, long trousers and a long-sleeved shirt or jacket.
2. For manuals for adult-sized ATVs, where a person is depicted, the person shall not appear to be younger than 16 years old.
3. For manuals for child-sized ATVs, where a person is depicted, the person shall not appear to be younger than the recommended age for that ATV.
4. Any photograph, sketch or pictograph that illustrates an inappropriate practice or hazardous condition shall clearly indicate, with a diagonal slash or otherwise, that the practice or condition is inappropriate or hazardous.